Fake SC/ST Certificates for obtaining Petrol Pumps

365. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fake certificates of Scheduled Tribes/Scheduled Castes have been used in obtaining petrol pumps for the retail sale of petroleum products;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government scrutinise all the certificates; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Some complaints have been made in this regard to the Oil Companies and the Government.

(c) and (d) SC/ST certificates are scrutinised by the Oil Marketing Companies and Oil Selection Boards at the time of selection of dealership/distributorships.

Import of oil and gas from Oman

366. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during Prime Minister's recent visit to Oman, any agreements signed for import of oil and gas and laying of supply lines for oil/gas from Oman;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating cost and mode of payment;

(c) whether Government propose to construct new oil refinery in view of the said agreement; and

(d) if so, the locations identified for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) During the visit of Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas to Oman during March, 1993 the Government of Sultanate of Oman, Government of India, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. have signed two separate Memoranda of Understanding on 13-3-1993 with M/s. Oman Oil Company Limited for setting up of the two Joint Venture Refineries of 6 MMTPA each in Western India and in Madhya Pradesh respectively. The project cost of the refineries will be financed on the basis of debt-equity ration not exceeding 3:1. BPCL/HPCL will have 26 per cent equity in the respective projects while Oman Oil Company will have 26 per cent each for the two refineries. The balance 48 per cent will be by the public. Further, an MOU for lying of gas pipeline between Oman and India has also seperately been signed during the visit.

Fake gas cylinders seized by Delhi Police

367. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police seized 644 fake gas cylinders in a raid at the premises of a shop ower, allegedly running an illegal gas agency;

(b) if so, the details of the seizure:

(c) whether such fake cylinders are potential danger to the lives of consumers;

(d) the modus operandi of the fake gas agncy as revealed by investigation; and

(e) what steps have been taken by Government to prevent such trafficking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) In a joint raid carried out on 10-6-93 by the officers of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation and Delhi Police, 644 gas cylinders were seized from the godown of a terminated LPG dealers. Police have registered a case in the matter a partner of the terminated dealership has been arrested and has been kept in judicial remand.